

Unified Command General Objectives

1. Address safety of passengers, crew and responders.

- Identify hazards & risks.
- Provide coordinated response.
- Stabilize the vessel.
- Account for all personnel.
- Evaluate and treat injuries.
- Determine need for evacuation.

2. Respond to potential and actual security threats.

- Evaluate cause of casualty.
- Make timely notifications.
- Mobilize outside security as needed.

3. Mitigate threat of pollution.

- Control source—minimize amount spilled.
- Arrange for response contractor to protect sensitive areas & recover and dispose of pollutant.

4. Manage Information

- Internal communications—Establish effective flow of information to and from scene, and between command post and response partners.
- External communications—Joint media coordination to provide “best” information source.

5. Restore Maritime Operations.

Coast Guard Response Expectations

- Notification at earliest time. Maintain an open line to USCG as needed to share information.
- Accurate reports of situation—damage, injuries, pollution, cause if known.
- Immediate update of significant events & timely information sharing.
- Local participation and representation with authority to act on behalf of owner / operator.
- Timely arrangements for pollution and salvage response.
- Accountability of all passengers and crew.
- Establish shore side management and support for evacuees.
- Participation in Joint Information Center for media relations.
- Understanding of NIMS ICS.

**KNOW YOUR RESPONSE PARTNERS!
SEE INSIDE FOR MORE ACTIONS.**

Coast Guard



Multi-Agency Quick Start Guide for Passenger Vessel

**Plan and Prepare
Today
To
Prevent and Respond
Tomorrow**

Edition 3.0

Multi– Agency Quick Response Guide for Passenger Vessels

USCG Rescue Coordination Center:

- Verify information & location. Complete notifications
- Reduce comms to ship to extent possible. Contact owners, agents for info to permit Master to address emergency.
- Coordinate with company on response plans.
- Assume SMC. Initiate Checklist.
- Issue UMIB / AMVER
- Launch / divert assets.
- Designate On Scene Commander (OSC).
- Determine status: numbers, injuries, missing, etc.
- Assign dedicated communicator and Maintain open line with company/agents as required for rapid info
- As needed, establish satellite comms w/ vsl.
- Notify Sector/COTP and request safety, security zone
- Request SAR Plan of Cooperation (large cruise ships)
- Support Master requests assistance.
- Request PAX/Crew List from agents, NOAA/SANS.
- Initiate Passenger Accountability procedures.
- Coordinate w/ owner & agents for commercial resources.
- Alert local communities resources
- Dispatch USCG Liaison officer to company EOC
- Contact FAA for temporary airspace restriction
- Coordinate with UC for staging and landing areas.
- Alert Public Affairs and CBPS.
- Complete ICS 201 form for situation brief.

Vessel Owner:

- Activate Crisis Action Team.
- Establish comms with ship and USCG RCC. Maintain open line as needed.
- Request local USCG Liaison officer at EOC.
- Share status information regularly.
- Assist Master with stability analysis and supplement decision support system. Share info.
- Commence logistics for possible passenger evacuation.
- Initiate passenger accountability process. Share information.
- Coordinate actions / information with Unified Command.
- Contact Flag State, Class, underwriters.
- Initiate spill and security plans.
- Ensure required state and local notification made.
- Activate JIC process w/ USCG – release initial media statement.
- Establish 800 number
- If no agent, initiate actions below

STATE

- Activate pollution, medical, and law enforcement actions / support as needed.
- Provide SOSOC for UC.

USCG Sector Command

- Form & Dispatch Away Team as needed.
- Prepare ICP and initiate Unified Command process as needed.
- Distribute contact info
- Liaison to RCC/SMC & Agents
- Execute applicable provisions of Area Maritime Security Plan.
- Establish and direct enforcement of safety / security zones.
- Direct shore / waterside MHLS patrols.
- Evaluate for security threat.
- Coordinate terrorism investigation with FBI (if appropriate).. Increase MARSEC level (if appropriate).
- Coordinate NOAA SSC
- Initiate pollution response
- Investigation initiation
- Comms with ship thru RCC or company EOC conference type calling
- ACP Checklists Reviewed

Unified Command

- Assume command.
- Set organization and objectives. Distribute.
- Initiate IAP development. "Planning P"
- Manage On-scene info flow. Ensure effective information sharing.
- Establish effective communications on scene. Complete comms plan and distribute
- Coordinate with law enforcement for investigative and security support.
- Stand up JIC w/industry. Issue joint release at earliest time.
- Maintain comms link to industry EOC for current info and plans.
- Assign tasks and responsibilities.
- Coordinate Customs Border Protection Service for evacuee clearance
- Establish and maintain effective liaison with key stakeholders.
- Support passenger accountability process.
- Establish secure landing sites: decon, triage, medical transport, Pax. Transport, crowd control.
- Monitor/assist evacuee transport.
- Set Security for reception center.

Vessel suffers disabling casualty.

IMMEDIATE

WITHIN TWO TO FOUR HOURS

Ship:

- Contact CG and company EOC at earliest time.
- Assess damage to vessel/stability.
- Extinguish/contain fire.
- Initiate damage control.
- Treat injured personnel. Report to USCG.
- Request MEDVACs as required.
- Determine need for evacuation.
- Evaluate cause of casualty for security threat.
- Mitigate possible release of fuel.
- Keep passengers informed of situation.
- Provide dedicated communicator for reports to EOC & USCG.
- Provide regular updates of status and changes
- To extent possible, ensure pax and crew have identification prior to evacuation.
- Maintain communications with SAR OSC.

Agents:

- Establish comms with EOC (owner) & USCG
- Arrange for any immediate requests from vessel's Master/ owner.
- Send liaison to RCC and Sector
- Update resources dispatched.
- Identify and contact all other available commercial assets in region for potential use.
- Souls on Board List to EOC ,RCC and reception center.
- Logistics for evacuation. Find reception ctr.
- Initiate process to activate reception center.
- Alert Red Cross / Salvation Army
- Locate interpreters.

Port Community

- City Mgr notified
- Activate Shore-side Emergency Plans.
- Hospital(s) recall available staff
- Harbormaster prepares City-owned port facilities. Assist with landing site ops.
- Assist w/ establishment of reception center(s)
- Provide triage, medical treatment, patient transport for injured persons landed ashore.
- Provide reps for UC.

- Coordinate/supervise special teams support (EOD, Strike Team, CSST, NOAA, FEMA, etc.)
- Coordinate marine firefighting support.
- Supervise spill response (source control, containment, recovery, protection of sensitive areas, disposal and decontamination).
- Evaluate damage survey/ approve salvage plan/supervise salvage operation.
- Implement law enforcement requirements for pax. control.
- Coordinate requirements for damaged ship transit, port entry.
- Locate interpreters

- **SAR OSC:** Support master, direct rescue resources on scene, serve as single POC for master, recover PIW, establish check in / out for resources, track evacuee numbers and destinations, provide status updates to SMC/Sector.